

IDAHO LOGGING SAFETY NEWS



Published quarterly in the interest of logging safety by the
Division of Building Safety, Logging Safety Bureau
June, 2002

Dirk Kempthorne, Governor
Dave Munroe, Administrator
Volume 13, Number 2

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

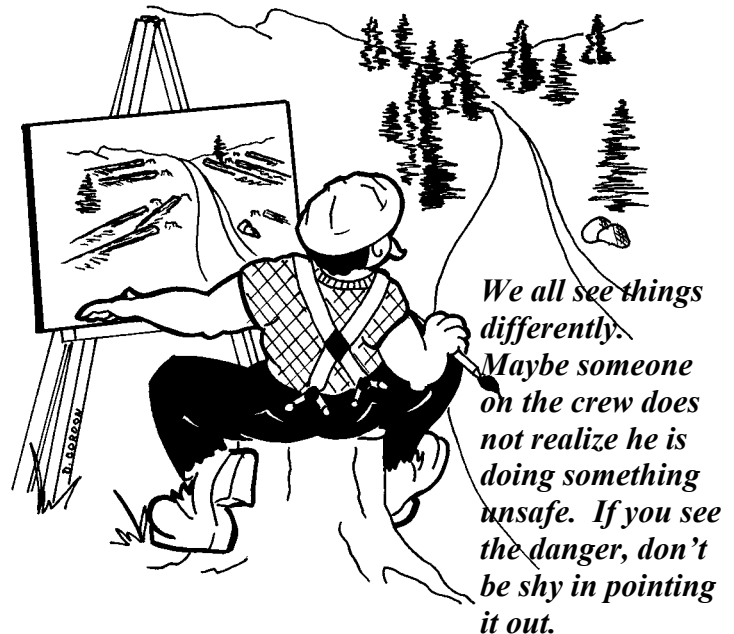
By David Kludt

By the time you receive this newsletter most of you will be back in the woods grinding away. It has been a long spring and I thought the snow would never leave in some of the higher areas. Luckily there were plenty of meetings to occupy your free time. Nearly 1400 loggers attended the large first aid classes and over 600 took part in the afternoon Pro-Logger sessions. It always amazes me how many of you come every year and believe me, we appreciate it. There were also numerous contractor meetings, log quality meetings, logging conferences and other assorted golf meetings and salmon fishing meetings on the river.

For those of you that missed the pro-logger session this spring there were some interesting accident statistics presented. Although timber falling still remains the most hazardous occupation, there was a significant drop in both numbers of accidents and dollars spent. Hookers were the ones that stood out the most. Not only did the number of injuries increase, the dollars spent were nearly equal to those spent on timber fallers. The other noticeable increase was with truck drivers. Obviously we need to look at these particular jobs and see if we can't get a handle on these accidents.

There is still some confusion among logging contractors concerning the pro-logger accreditation. If you have done LEAP and the other required training, you are NOT automatically registered as a pro-logger. You MUST contact the Associated Logging Contractors office (208-667-6473) and fill out a form requesting that you be registered. Then, they will keep you updated.

That's about all for this spring. I hope you all have a safe and profitable summer. *See you in the woods!*



We all see things differently. Maybe someone on the crew does not realize he is doing something unsafe. If you see the danger, don't be shy in pointing it out.



A young sawyer was falling trees in north Idaho when he brushed a birch tree with another tree.

The top of the birch was dead and came back towards him striking him on the head. He was flown to the hospital where he was treated and released with minor injuries.

Since the injuries involved the head and neck, the crew treated this as a serious injury - *EXACTLY* like they were supposed to!



A timber faller in Northern Idaho related that he escaped a serious injury strictly by luck. He had fell a large red fir and was standing by the stump watching it slide down between a couple of other large trees. From out of nowhere a limb struck him in the head leaving him sitting on the ground wondering what had happened. He said it suddenly dawned on him that what he had heard for years about most falling accidents happening within 10 feet of the stump might just be true. He has since made a conscientious effort to get away from the stump before worrying about where the tree is going to land.

This is **Dennis Funke** and **Toby Walls** getting ready to head for the job. They were taking the *Timbco* that Toby runs to the woods on this particular day. Dennis and his brother Bob own *Funke Bros Logging* in Coeur d' Alene.



This is **Linda Funke**. She is Bob's wife and does the books for *Funke Bros*. I'm guessing she has the big job for the outfit and gets to do all the paperwork on that safety stuff.

The **Idaho Logging Safety News** is published quarterly by the Logging Safety Bureau and is prepared by the Division of Building Safety, Rachel Manning, Administrative Assistant.

It is mailed to all logging companies in Idaho. We welcome your comments and suggestions. Call (208) 334-3950 or write: **Idaho Logging Safety News**, Logging Safety Bureau. PO Box 83720, Boise. ID 83720-0048

SELF CPR

This article was given to me by a couple of loggers that had read it in different magazines. They thought it was important and so do I.

Object: **HOW TO SURVIVE A HEART ATTACK WHEN ALONE---CPR for Yourself**

What do you do if you have a heart attack while you are alone? Two individuals from the Johnson City Medical staff actually discovered this. They did an in-depth study, wrote an article on it and had it published and have even had this procedure incorporated into CPR classes. It is called cough CPR and it works!

Let's say it's 6:15 p.m. and you're driving home (alone of course), after an unusually hard day on the job. You're really tired, upset and frustrated. Suddenly you start experiencing severe pain in your chest that starts to radiate out into your arm and up into your jaw.

You are only about five miles from the hospital nearest your home. Unfortunately you don't know if you'll be able to make it that far. What can you do? You've been trained in CPR but the guy that taught the course did not tell you how to perform it on yourself.

Since many people are alone when they suffer a heart attack, this article seemed to be in order. Without help, the person whose heart is beating improperly and who begins to feel faint, has only about 10

seconds left before losing consciousness. However, these victims can help themselves by coughing repeatedly and very vigorously. A deep breath should be taken before each cough, and the cough must be deep and prolonged, as when producing sputum from deep inside the chest. A breath and a cough must be repeated about every two seconds without let up until help arrives, or until the heart is felt to be beating normally again.

Deep breaths get oxygen into the lungs and coughing movements squeeze the heart and keep the blood circulating. The squeezing pressure on the heart also helps it regain normal rhythm. In this way, heart attack victims can get to a hospital.

This is Tom and Wendy Ray from Orofino. At the time of this picture I think that Wendy had been doing more work than Tom even though he claims that going to town four or five times a day for parts is not only necessary but still quite productive. Tom is a third generation logger and has had his own outfit for the past 5 years. He has another 24 years experience in the woods with 18 of those in California cutting and loading those pecker pole redwood trees 14 ft to 18 ft in diameter on the stump--obviously nothing for an Idaho logger. Tom is presently doing road right-of-way and pioneering for Potlatch Corp. during the summer and logging during the winter. He prefers to operate with 2 or 3 other people and it seems to be working well for him. His log quality is top notch and his safety record is also excellent. Tom understands that one of the ramifications of having a serious accident with so few employees is HIGH INSURANCE COSTS. His high log quality expectations come from cutting those 16 ft (in diameter) trees where a few inches off can have a tremendous effect on scale. Like nearly every logger, Tom plans on being at this for a long time, but with all of the uncertainties, he is proceeding with caution when it comes to those brand new, shiny machines.



SAFETY CONCERNS IN WASHINGTON STATE ARE THE SAME AS IN IDAHO

By Galen Hamilton

A couple of us were able to attend the Washington Logging Safety Conference earlier this year held in Olympia. As usual, the Washington safety boys put on a good show. A wide range of topics were covered, many of which you Idaho loggers deal with on a daily basis. A few thoughts stuck out and we thought they were worth hauling back home and mentioning here.

Driving safety was covered extremely well by a fellow that has spent his entire life dealing with traffic safety education. Years ago, a car loaded with his former driver training students wrecked killing one of the kids, his own child. This horrible accident sent this fellow on a mission of training that he does with such dedication that you cannot help but get "the point"--- 54,000 fatalities a year from car wrecks in the U.S. and most could have been avoided. Obviously this is something to think about when the boys jump in the crummy this spring or when the family heads down to buy groceries.

"In the Clear" was a topic that pretty well explains itself and also hits close to home. For those of you that sat through our afternoon classes this year after first-aid, you know that many of the accidents we talked about were a result of not being quite out of the way. Apparently the loggers in Washington face the same problem. A number of accidents were discussed: working under the carriage when it dropped, being too close to the drag when the "go ahead" whistle was given and fallers working too close together.

As we know, timber falling continues to lead the way in accidents. One statistic brought up that caught my attention was that in Washington, 4 out of the 5 fatalities concerning fallers involved trees that were LESS than 10 inches in diameter. Another item brought up was that, with the trend toward more tree lengthing (smaller timber), falling practices have become "sloppier". Talking to Kludt

on the way home about this, we had to agree. On the jobs that the fallers are just tripping and walking away, it is obvious that the time spent at the stump is not what it would have been if limbing and bucking were involved. Re-read this last paragraph and tell me if we're not onto something here.

Now I can hear you saying, "Geez Galen, we know what is getting our Idaho loggers hurt. You keep writing about the same things over and over." *AHHA*, I was waiting for you to say that! The point the one speaker left us with was:

**THE
ACCIDENTS
THAT KILLED
LOGGERS TEN
YEARS AGO
ARE THE SAME
ONES THAT
WILL KILL
LOGGERS TEN
YEARS FROM
NOW!!!!** If we
don't learn from
these tragedies it's
our own fault.

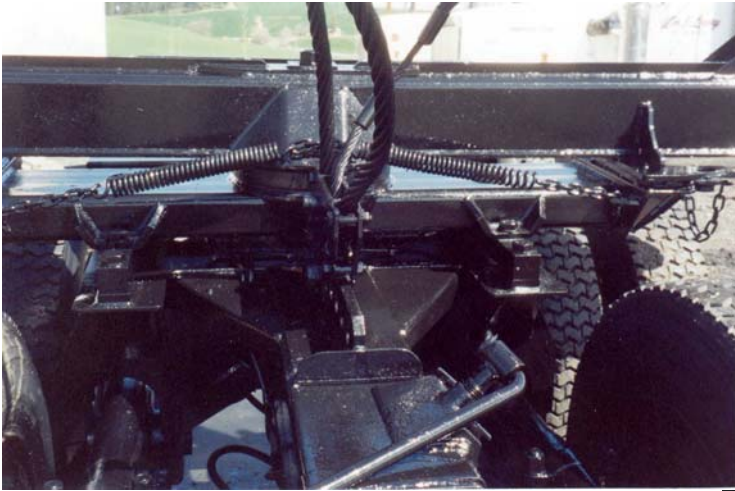


Paul "*Hutch*" Hutchison, contract loader for Darby Logging



Paul or "*Hutch*" with his new 270 Komatsu. Paul purchased this loader because it is versatile for handling both small or large logs safely and efficiently. Hutch keeps a handle on his truck drivers making sure they're always in their safety zone.

LOWERY TRUCKING



Lowery's are installing spring returns on their trailer bunks so drivers won't have to mess with a bunk pin.



Bill Lowery III and Bill Lowery standing by one of their lowboy trucks



Here is a check list Bill put together some time ago for his drivers to go over before leaving the shop with a truck:

- | | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> water | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> tires | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gloves | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> mud flaps | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> turn signals |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fuel | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> hard hat | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> lights | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> oil | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> wrappers & binders |

It is Bills aim to have a safe, productive day without accidents. Safety around the loader is especially important. The loader operator has enough to do without worrying about the safety of the truck drivers. The drivers need to stay in sight and in front of the truck while loading.

Idaho's Logging Safety Advisors

David Kludt	(208) 935-1216
Don Hull	(208) 667-8646
Cliff Osborne	(208) 875-0690
Galen Hamilton	(208) 793-2639



This is Terry Streeter discussing some changes to Babbitt Logging's safety plan with Don Hull before they get ready to go to work this spring.

SPRING FIRST AID AND PRO-LOGGER TRAINING

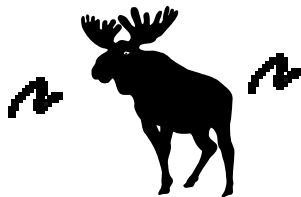
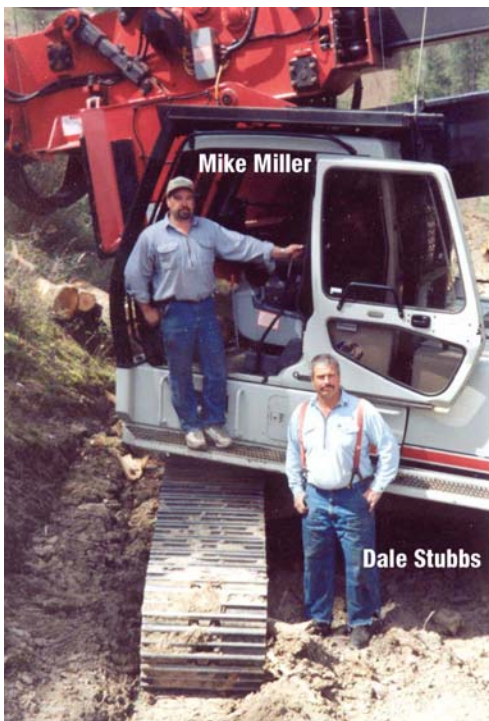
By Don Hull

The spring safety meetings are all but over for another season. We had a pretty good turnout for first aid classes with over 1400 loggers attending from around the state. There will be another 200 to 300 trained in smaller classes before spring is over. The classes went exceptionally well and we hope that some of our new equipment added to the success. It does help to not only be able to see, but also to hear what is going on. Part of this success can be attributed to Galen (the new computer guru) being able to handle the new computer equipment without the use of a hammer.

We want to take this opportunity to again thank the many businesses for furnishing the doughnuts for the different classes around the state. Les Schwab Tire in Bonners Ferry, Sandpoint, Coeur d'Alene, Kellogg, St. Maries, Grangeville, Emmett and St. Anthony, Rowand Machine in St. Maries and Potlatch, Western States Machinery in Pierce, Log-Max Processors and Western States Machinery in Deary, Tisco Parts and Machine in Orofino, and Jerry's NAPA in Council for Donnelly. If you have a chance, stop in and give them a personal thanks. It makes it a lot easier to get their support if they know how much we appreciate it. See *Spring Training* – Page 7



This is Dave Munroe and Dianna Hull at the Emmett first aid class. Dave is our boss and heads up the Division of Building Safety in Meridian. We appreciate Dave taking the time from his busy schedule to come and see what the loggers have to put up with in terms of training. Dianna is Don's wife and she does ALL the paperwork for the classes around the state. Don has her convinced that this is her vacation—Thanks Dianna!!



Dale Stubbs Logging

Mike Miller (on the machine) and Dale Stubbs by the newly purchased 3400 Link Belt delimeter.

Here you have two well-seasoned loggers operating not-so-well-seasoned equipment. Mike and Dale do the falling, skidding and processing timber. The only hand falling is the oversized, which Dale tackles. Safety is pretty simple here with only two people doing the logging. George Lisher does the trucking and loads the logs with a Stubbs Inc. loader.

"HOOKERS" ACCIDENTS ON THE INCREASE

By Cliff Osborne

Hooking logs on a line machine is a very physically demanding job for a logger. The accident frequency for hookers has been on the increase the last few years. Why is this? It certainly looks to me like the ground is steeper and a heck of a lot brushier than in years past. I have also noticed an increasing amount of tree length skidding on cable strips. Tree lengths usually means smaller trees which can easily si-wash, especially if they are hooked long. Some of these new yarders have a lot of power which increases the chances of logs or trees flipping end to end and hitting the hookers.

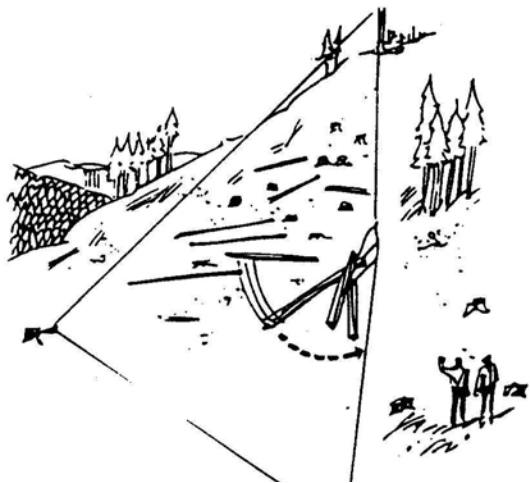
Here are some basic line skidding guidelines that were gathered from throughout the western states. These could make some good topics for safety meetings.

~ Rigging Crew ~

🚧 Employees must be in the clear of logs, root wads, chunks, hazardous trees, rolling material and rigging before the go-ahead signal is given and must stay in the clear until all riggings movements has stopped.

🚧 **"In the clear"** means:

~ A position where the probability of hazardous contact with machines, moving logs, chunks, material, and rigging is minimized by distance from the hazards and/or use of physical barriers such as stumps, trees, terrain or other objects providing protection.



Crew is above and behind the turn. Out of reach of any swinging or upending logs.

~ Back behind on the uphill side of the turn and out of reach of any swinging or upending logs.

~ Out of the bight.

~ In a position where movement will not be obstructed, preferably in the logged off area.

🚧 When pre-setting chokers ensure safe work practices are being followed:

~ No pre-setting of chokers in areas made unsafe by runaway logs.

~ Workers must remain clear of standing trees and saplings that could be pulled over by lateral yarding; they must also remain clear of upending and swinging logs. Partially pulled over trees must be removed before yarding commences or continues in the hazardous area.

~ Before giving the "go ahead" signal ensure all workers are in the clear.

~ Workers pre-setting must be able to hear audible signals.

~ When pre-setting chokers on both sides of the line, there must be at least one signaling device at each location.

🚧 **NEVER** ride the rigging

SPRING TRAINING- Page 6

We also had some very interesting topics for this spring's afternoon Pro-Logger Classes. Jim Cola and his crew from the Department of Lands did their part on fish passage through culverts. George Miller from the Associated Loggers Contractors gave some very interesting and useful information on the importance and need for accident investigations. Cliff and I presented some accident statistics and also talked about last year's logging fatalities for the State of Idaho. Dave and Galen gave a presentation on OSHA activities around the state for last year. All of these presentations were targeted to be quick and to the point and hopefully provided the loggers with some useful information.

Any ideas for next years Pro-logger continuing education would be appreciated. These are done for YOU and should be beneficial to your success in the logging business.

NOT ROUTINE? MAYBE UNSAFE!

By Galen Hamilton

Getting our last newsletter ready a few months ago, I stopped by Don Gordon's house to pick up the cartoon drawing he had done for us. Don has been doing the cartoon and fatality drawings for the last several years. Like many of you, Don followed his dad into the logging business as soon as his age would allow. After doing every job on the mountain, he eventually started falling timber, which he loved. Several years ago he did leave the woods to follow another one of his passions-- art. Combining his knack with a chain saw and his artistic ability, he started producing some of the most beautiful chain saw carvings I have ever laid eyes on.

We have all known people like Don throughout our lives. In the time it takes for some of us to get the butter spread out on our pancakes, he can grab a pencil and paper and produce a picture you would love to have hanging on your wall. He can also pick up a saw and create an eagle, bear or moose that looks life like, while some of us can only "create" sawdust with that same saw.

Anyway, when Don handed me that cartoon I noticed a bandage on his thumb. It seems he had been working in his shop when his daughter wanted a piece of wood cut. In the middle of his own project, he grabbed the wood and reached across the table saw to oblige. The saw caught the wood,

jerking his hand into the saw, removing the end of his thumb.

"I had my hand exactly where it was not supposed to be. I knew better when I was reaching over." So why do we have a fellow that is very good at what he does and works around this equipment every day getting hurt?

Don told me it was a stupid move (his words), but he also said something else. "Cutting that piece of wood was not part of my project. It broke the routine." I started thinking about this and relating it back to some of the accidents we have had, and even some of the fatalities.

A cat Skinner was hanging his chokers up at exactly lunch time one day when the boss jumped on the cat and said he could get one more drag. The faller that the cat Skinner had been working safely around all morning knew the skidding crew would be eating lunch, so he took that opportunity to fall a big pine.

You guessed it, when the tree started to go and the faller looked up, there

I told Don I would get my 084 out of the saw box and help him carve his eagle, but he declined... Go Figure!

was the boss on the cat. The tree came within three feet of adding another statistic to the fatality list. Being out there on that cat during the lunch hour "broke the routine".

If the crew gets shoved into a smaller landing than they are used to, then maybe we need to swing the logs in a different direction. Having a few "new" trucks show up on the job may require us to slow down long enough to let them know our company's loading policies. A timber faller having a tree go where it was not intended, should take the time to check if this created any safety concerns. These conditions altered the routine. The next time you think to yourself, "that's not the way we usually do this", slow down and take a look around.





With spring training classes behind us, the Associated Logging Contractors (ALC) office in Coeur d'Alene is getting calls on a daily basis from loggers and mills wanting to know who is "certified" as an Idaho Pro-Logger and who isn't. That is what the ALC does – we track and keep records for loggers who are in the program and give that information to the mills.

The Idaho Pro-Logger Program began in 1998. It started in direct response to the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) which was and is driven by the mills across the United States. The primary focus of the program is to meet the educational needs of Idaho loggers, forest owners, forest product companies and SFI requirements, and similar needs.

While in most other states the logging associations set-up and drive the logger training, Idaho formed a 'committee' to develop and implement the program. The committee is known as the Idaho

Pro-Logger Program Steering Committee and members are: loggers, forest industry companies, forest owners, scientists, and representatives from the University of Idaho, the Idaho Department of Lands, the Associated Logging Contractors, and the Idaho Logging Safety Program. The ALC took on the role of administration. To become certified as an Idaho-Logger the owner/operator and key employees of a logging firm must take three days of instruction in silviculture, forest ecology, and water quality which is offered by the University of Idaho through its "LEAP" program. Loggers must also take first aid training sufficient to receive first aid certification as required by current OSHA regulations. Employees directly associated with harvest operations on the ground, including the owner/contractor, take a half-day course in safety and best management practices at least every other year. Additionally, after initial certification the owner/contractor must take 16 credits of continuing education activity every year.

This is where the tracking and administration work the ALC does comes in. We collect all the rosters and sign-up sheets from classes that are given that are qualified to issue credits for the Idaho Pro-Logger program. If a logger or a logging company wants to become 'certified' under the program they must enroll – it doesn't happen automatically.

There is a brief application to fill out to get going. At that point, we start tracking your classes. If you haven't signed up to become certified, we don't track you. We do however keep the rosters and sign-up sheets on hand in case somewhere down the road you decide you want to sign-up.

At the ALC, we try to make the application process as painless as possible. If you call, we can send you an application or take it over the phone. After you are in the system as an active participant we track your credits. We do need to know when you take a class and if you want those credits to apply towards the certification. To help with that, we send out transcripts at least once a year to let you know what credits have been applied to your record. If there is something missing you can give us a call and we will get it squared away.

The Idaho mills seem to be contacting us in the spring and fall asking for lists of certified loggers. The mills would also like us to post this list on the internet on our web-site. That may come in the future. Right now we want to make sure that our records match yours and that we have an up-to-date and accurate accounting of your credits. Some mills are using this list to decide who to hire and so our priority is on making sure that if you are signed up in the program we have your files right.

For more information on the Idaho Pro-Logger Program contact the ALC at 208-667-6473.

David Kludt
Idaho Logging Safety
HC11 Box 82
Kamiah, ID 83536

PRST-STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO 1
BOISE ID
